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CLASSIFICATION

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION FROM

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

CD NO.

COUNTRY

TISSE

DATE OF

**SUBJECT** 

Scientifis - Research

1949 INFORMATION

HOW **PUBLISHED** 

Daily newspapers

DATE DIST. 29 Dec 1949

WHERE

**PUBLISHED** 

LANGUAGE

Moscow; Tbilisi; Zurich

NO. OF PAGES

DATE

**PUBLISHED** 

23 Sep - 22 Oct 1949

SUPPLEMENT TO

REPORT NO.

Russian; Cormon

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

Newspapers as indicated.

PREPARE SOIL KAPS; RESETTLE FOR-BEARING ANIMALS; STUDY PLANT DRUGS

MAPS MEAR COMPLETION -- Vechernyaya Moskva, No 241, 10 Oct 49

In the past year, the Soil Institute of the Academy of Sciences USSR issued a soil map of the European USSR in scale 1:2,500,000.

Two new soil maps of Moscow Oblast, one in scale 1:500,000, the other in scale 1:200,000, are near completion. These maps of Moscow Oblast will be in the largest scale attempted up to now. Nine sheets of the 1:200,000 map have been completed; nine must still be finished. The completed sheets depict the rayons around Moscow and the northern and eastern rayons of the Oblast. The 1:500,000 map will be completed in the next 3 or 4 months.

SOVIET RESETTIES FUR-BENRING ANIMAIS -- Neue Zurcher Zeitung, No 2159, 22 Oct 49

A Soviet-issued handbook on the fur industry in the Soviet Union states that the Soviet Union produces one third of the world's furs and carries on one fifth of the world's fur trade. The UESR has a monopoly on certain kinds of valuable wild animal pelts.

Studies of specialists on the biology of fur-bearing animals have resulted in the introduction of certain types of animals in regions where they had not been found previously. More than 80,000 animals of 21 different species have been transplanted to new regions during the last 20 years. Among these animals are moles, squirrels, muskrats, polar foxes, sables, and beavers. According to the handbook, the Russians were able to raise sable and one type of weasel in captivity.

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More and more kolkhozes and sovkhozes are undertaking the raising of furbearing animals. In Siberia, cilver and blue fox raising has become popular. The reforestation program should give new impetus to the production of furbearing animals, since the shelter belts will provide natural habitats for the animale.

NEW ANTIMALARIA DRUG FOUND -- Trud, No 230, 29 Sep 49

Batumi -- The Transcaucasus Zonal Experimental Station of the All-Union Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants has succeeded in growing a cinchona tree. Since the cinchona tree is very sensitive to temperature changes, it was believed that it could not be grown along the Black Sea shores as a perennial plant. By applying Michurin methods, however, the Transcaucasus Station was successful and is now growing 2 year-old cinchons trees, one meter in height. The tree has already been used for a new native antimalaria preparation called "khinet," whose action is superior to quinine.

This year, 5,000 cinchons trees have been planted at experimental stations.

PLENUM TO DISCUSS PLANT PROTECTION -- Izvestiya, No 225, 23 Sep 49

Stalinahad -- A meeting of the Plenum for the Protection of Plants of the All-Laion Academy of Agricultural Sciences imeni V. I. Lenin opened today in Stalinabad. Representatives from many scientific research institutes, from republic scientific academies, and leading scholars from Moscow, Leningrad, the Ukraine, Azerbaydzhan, Armenia, Kirgizia, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan are attending the meeting. They will discuss new chemical preparations for, and means of fighting, agricultural pests and diseases of cotton, lucerne, grapes, vegetables, grains, and other plants.

FRUIT FURNISHES NEW STIMULANT -- Zarya Vostoka, No 200, 11 Oct 49

Vladivostok -- Wild fruit and berry picking has begun in the Ussuri taiga. Among the most important fruits being gathered are those of the Chinese magnolia, or limonnik (Schizondra chinensis), which are used as a stimulant. A group of scientific workers from the Far East Base of the Academy of Sciences USSR, headed by Professor Rossiyskiy, examined the limonnik thoroughly and discovered in its fruits and seeds a tonic substance which revives strength very quickly. For the first time, large quantities of limonnik will be picked for medicinal purposes.

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